

7/2/52
July 17, 1952

Mr. Allen W. Dulles
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Dulles:

I do appreciate your kindness in making the enclosed chapter available to me. The material has shed valuable additional light on the Dulles-Fujimura-Kitamura negotiations and has helped put the whole episode into its proper place in the over-all story of the surrender. I found especially interesting the statement relayed by Jacobsen after his conference with you that "America would like to preserve the Emperor but because of opposition could not state so clearly in writing . . . and would make it an understanding." Is there any substance to this?

My research into the tangled story of Japan's internal struggle to bring an end to the war dates back to the day I landed in Tokyo in October 1945 with the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey. Since that time, I have talked to the principal characters on the scene -- Togo, Kido, Hiranuma, Koiso, Shigemitsu, etc. I have also examined all available written material bearing on both the Japanese and American sides. My purpose is to put together as objective and authentic a narrative of events as possible.

I am particularly alert to all information on the surrender. You mentioned, if I correctly understood, that this chapter is part of a history being compiled and published by the Japanese Foreign Ministry. Frankly, in composition, style and content, this chapter 22 is quite unlike any other foreign office publication I have seen. Especially incongruous are the heavy dependency on materials excerpted from popular magazine sources and the complete omission of any reference to official cables which are supposed to have been transmitted to and from Tokyo. That these cables exist is clearly indicated in Fujimura's Bungei Shunju article. I would be extremely interested, therefore, in having the opportunity to review briefly some of the other material -- in English or Japanese -- that was included with this chapter.

Mr. Allen W. Dulles

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You have already shown me every consideration, and I hesitate to presume further on your kindness. But if you possibly see your way clear to making the other material available I will, of course, return it within whatever time period you stipulate.

Again let me thank you for your time and courtesy.

Sincerely yours,

Jerome Forrest

Jerome Forrest

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[Redacted Box] (para. 1204)

I spoke to Mr. Forrest on the phone this morning and conveyed Mr. Dulles' point that in the matter of para. 1 (above) he was speaking entirely unofficially. I also arranged to have delivered to Mr. Forrest by messenger, for a 2-week loan period, the Japanese text from which ch. 22 referred to above was translated.

RFL

22 July